

Message Text

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05369 201126Z

11
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /027 W
----- 129585

R 190718Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6700
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 5369

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, TW
SUBJECT: A NEW POLITICAL MAGAZINE MAKES ITS DEBUT

1. IN EARLY AUGUST THE TAIWAN POLITICAL REVIEW (TPR), A POLITICALLY-ORIENTED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, MADE ITS DEBUT. THE MAGAZINE STAFF IS DOMINATED BY LEADING TAIWANESE POLITICAL ACTIVISTS: HUANG HSIN-CHIEH (7806/0207/0094), INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE YUAN MEMBER ELECTED IN 1969, IS THE PUBLISHER; KANG NING-HSIANG (1660/1380/4382), INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE YUAN MEMBER ELECTED IN 1972, IS THE DIRECTOR; AND CHANG CHUN-HUNG (1728/0193/1347), FORMER EDITOR OF TA HSUEH (THE INTELLECTUAL) MAGAZINE, IS THE EDITOR.

2. THE FIRST ISSUE OF TPR CARRIES SEVERAL ARTICLES TREATING WHAT THE GROC WOULD CONSIDER POLITICALLY SENSITIVE THEMES, SUCH AS A REVIEW OF TAIWAN'S FUTURE POLITICAL OPTIONS (INCLUDING "INDEPENDENCE" FROM THE REUNIFICATION WITH THE MAINLAND) AND A CALL FOR REFORM OF CENTRAL-LEVEL PARLIAMENTARY BODIES. (SUMMARIES OF THREE OF THE ARTICLES HAVE BEEN POUCHED TO EA/ROC.)

3. AS NOTED IN TAIPEI A-22 OF FEBRUARY 22, 1974, MAGAZINES HAVE TRADITIONALLY ENJOYED MORE FREEDOM IN COMMENTING ON SENSITIVE ISSUES THAN HAVE NEWSPAPERS. BUT WHEN THE GROC
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 05369 201126Z

DECIDES TO CRACK DOWN ON THEM -- AS IN THE CASE OF THE POLITICALLY-ORIENTED FREE CHINA FORTNIGHTLY (FCF) AND TA HSUEH -- THEY HAVE ALSO SUFFERED MORE SEVERE PUNISHMENT. FCF MET ITS DEMISE WHEN LEI CHEN (7191/7201) ITS FOUNDER, WAS

ARRESTED AND SENTENCED IN 1960 TO A TEN-YEAR PRISON TERM KFOR "SPREADING COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA AND HARBORING A COMMUNIST AGENT." TA HSUEH WAS DE-POLITICIZED BUT ALLOWED TO CONTINUE PUBLISHING WHEN ITS OUT-SPOKEN EDITOR CHANG CHUN-HUNG WAS FORCED BY THE GROG TO RESIGN IN 1974, FOLLOWING HIS DEFEAT IN THE TAIPEI CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS. (SEE TAIPEI A-46 OF MARCH 8, 1974).

4. THE FIRST ISSUE OF TPR STRIKES US AS BEING MORE POLITICALLY PROVOCATIVE (IN THE GROG'S VIEW) THAN EARLY ISSUES OF TA HSUEH AND IS REMINISCENT OF FCF. MOREOVER, IT APPEARS TO BE IN WIDE DEMAND. (ACCORDING TO KAN NING-HSIANG, THE FIRST PRINTING OF 8000 COPIES HAS ALREADY SOLD OUT AND A SECOND PRINTING OF 5000 HAS BEEN ORDERED.)

5. SHOULD IT SURVIVE, TPR PROMISES TO FILL THE POLITICAL VOID IN JOURNALISTIC CIRCLES LEFT THE DE-POLITICIZATION OF TA HSUEH. (THE ONLY OTHER MAGAZINE THAT VERY OCCASIONALLY CARRIES POLITICALLY-SENSITIVE ARTICLES IS MAN AND SOCIETY, WHICH IS EDITED BY MAINLANDERS.) HOWEVER, GIVEN GROG SENSITIVITIES TO ANY UNIFIED OPPOSITION "VOICE," IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE GROG SECURITY APPARATUS WILL WATCH CAREFULLY NOT ONLY THE CONTENT OF TPR BUT ALSO THE ACTIVITIES OF ITS LEADERSHIP.

6. THE EMBASSY WILL BE CLOSELY FOLLOWING THE FORTUNES OF TPR SINCE CONTINUED TREATMENT OF SUCH SENSITIVE SUBJECTS IN FUTURE ISSUES WOULD STRONGLY INDICATE THAT THE GROG MAY BE WILLING TO ADOPT A MORE RELAXED ATTITUDE TOWARD PRESS-CONTROLS--AT LEAST FOR THIS MAGAZINE. UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MAGAZINES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TAIPEI05369
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750287-0960
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750898/baaaadwx.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971009
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINS, PINT, TW, PINT
To: STATE INFO TOKYO
HONG KONG
PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006